

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 L-03

ACDA-19 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 /118 R

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R 302333Z AUG 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192026

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MCAP, NATO
SUBJECT: AIRLIFT BRIEFING FOR THE DPC

REF: (A) USNATO 4553 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 78301 (NOTAL);
(C) USNATO 4376 (NOTAL)

1. WE AGREE THAT THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES TO BE GAINED
BY PROVIDING AN AIRLIFT BRIEFING TO THE DPC AND THE MC
AS SUGGESTED IN REF A. HOWEVER, YOUR REQUEST TO HAVE
THE BRIEFING IN SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER IS GOING TO
BE DIFFICULT TO FULFILL.

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2. AS YOU ARE UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE, OUR BUDGET REQUESTS

FOR AN AIRLIFT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM HAS NOT FARED WELL IN CONGRESS. THE ONLY PORTION OF THE PROGRAM THAT WAS FUNDED WAS THE REQUEST FOR FUNDS TO STRETCH THE C-141S. AS POINTED OUT REF B, WE ARE RELUCTANT TO BRIEF AIRLIFT IMPROVEMENT MEASURES TO THE DPC UNTIL WE ARE REASONABLY CONFIDENT OF OUR PROGRAM'S ACCEPTANCE BY CONGRESS. WE HAVE NOT GIVEN UP ON REQUESTING FUNDS FOR THE AIRLIFT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM, AND WE WILL AGAIN MAKE A STRONG BID FOR FUNDS TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM IN THE FISCAL YEAR 76 BUDGET. FAILURE TO RECEIVE CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR THIS PROGRAM THIS YEAR HAS NECESSITATED STUDYING HOW THIS AFFECTS THE US REINFORCEMENT PLANS FOR THE SUPPORT OF NATO, WHAT PROBLEMS WERE CREATED AND WHAT WE CAN DO

TO SOLVE THEM. INITIAL RESULTS OF THIS STUDY ARE DUE TO BE BRIEFED TO SECDEF IN EARLY OCTOBER.

3. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE MORE USEFUL INFORMATION TO THE PERMREPS, WE SUGGEST DELAYING THE REQUESTED AIRLIFT BRIEFING UNTIL AT LEAST EARLY NOVEMBER. AT THAT TIME, RESULTS OF NATO REINFORCEMENT STUDIES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AND MORE DEFINITIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEPTION FACILITIES AND STANDBY OPERATING BASES FOR AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT WILL HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED.

4. STATUS OF US POSITION ON AN ALLIED CIVIL AIR FLEET IS BEING ANSWERED IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE IN RESPONSE TO REF C.

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